

THE EVENING STAR,

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
THURSDAY, October 9, 1919

THEODORE W. NOYES... Editor

The Evening Star Newspaper Company
Business Office: 11th St. and Pennsylvania Ave.
New York Office: Tribune Building
Chicago Office: First National Bank Building
European Office: 3 Regent St., London, England.

The Evening Star, with the Sunday morning edition, is delivered by carriers within the city at 50 cents per month; daily only, 45 cents per month; Sunday only, 20 cents per month. Orders may be sent by mail, or telephone Main 8000. Collection is made by carriers at the end of each month.

Subscription Rate by Mail.
PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.
Daily and Sunday 1 yr., \$8.40; 1 mo., 70 cts.
Daily only.....1 yr., \$6.00; 1 mo., 50 cts.
Sunday only.....1 yr., \$2.40; 1 mo., 20 cts.
Entered as second-class mail matter at the post office at Washington, D. C.

A Machine for Justice.

A danger which confronts the President's industrial conference is that it may try to do too much, thereby entangling itself in a maze of details and conflicting purposes out of which only failure could emerge. Better some one thing accomplished, at once big and practical, than a multitude of lesser things attempted and launched in forms unworkable and foredoomed to result in little if any permanent good.

Such a thing, big and practical, which it seems possible might be achieved is the setting up of a national tribunal for inquiring into and adjudicating industrial disputes. Probably it would not be desirable to attempt to bind both employers and employees in advance to abide by the findings of such a tribunal; but both parties ought to be, and probably would be, willing to agree that there should be no suspension of work until the inquiry had been made and judgment rendered. Organized labor is on record officially as an advocate of the arbitration of disputed issues, and capital, though less perfectly organized, is no less strongly committed to the principle.

A tribunal of this character should derive its credentials from the highest sources of authority and should be so impressive in its personnel that it would command at once the respect and confidence of both capital and labor, and would gain as an instrument for the enforcement of its decrees implicit belief that it had sought and arrived at substantial justice. Such a tribunal in operation would not serve to avert strikes and lockouts entirely, but it would reduce their numbers to a minimum and probably shorten the duration and lessen the consequences of those which could not be averted. Unless there had been a palpable denial of justice, public opinion would force acceptance of the tribunal's findings; and no gross miscarriage of justice could long endure the public light which would beat upon it in such a circumstance.

Creation of such a tribunal would involve the building up of a more or less elaborate machine reaching into all parts of the country, and it is not to be expected that it could be perfected in all its parts and made to issue from the present conference like Athena springing full-armed from the brow of Zeus. Only time and experience could disclose the need of additions to or subtractions from the original machine, and, therefore, it would be desirable to provide for the assembling again next year, or sooner, and periodically hereafter, of such a conference as the one now in session.

With the tribunal functioning and its achievements meeting the practical requirements of a workaday world, there would in time be built up a code of industrial law and precedents which would make disputes between employers and employees less and less likely to arise.

Various delegates appear to have attended the industrial conference with no specific object in mind except a desire to be on hand in case something interesting occurs.

The gentleman with a motion to adjourn is occasionally so impetuous as nearly to get in ahead of the calling of the meeting to order.

Fire Prevention Day.

Today has been designated as fire prevention day throughout the United States. This day has been chosen because it is the anniversary of the great Chicago fire of 1871. That conflagration started on the 8th of October and was checked on the 9th by the use of gunpowder. It was the costliest visitation this country had ever suffered and has been approached in severity only by the Boston, Baltimore and San Francisco fires of subsequent dates. The Chicago fire started in a manner that has been made a matter of historic record. A cow was being milked in a shed and kicked over the lantern by the light of which the milk was working, setting fire to the straw on the floor. From that simple cause came millions of dollars of loss and many deaths. Most of the great conflagrations have been caused in the same way by avoidable circumstances, by so-called accidents. The San Francisco conflagration, however, was of an unpreventable character in terms of rules and regulations and personal precautions. An earthquake overturned stoves and flames began to spread which could not be checked because the shaking of the crust had broken the water mains. Fire prevention is a matter of care and thoughtfulness and systematic observance of simple rules. Only a very small percentage of fires are due to causes beyond human control.

Carelessly thrown matches, or cigarettes or cigars; the thoughtless use of gasoline or other highly inflammable materials within range of open flames; indifferent care of electric wires or handling of stoves; bad construction of furnace pipes and grates; the lighting of fires with kerosene; the exposure of inflammable materials to the influence of heat; the lighting of gas jets near curtains that can be blown against the flame; the careless disposal of greasy cloths; indifferent handling of matches and permitting children to play with them—these are some of the ways in which fires start, all of them preventable, and all of them the result of carelessness or indifference to the first rules of safety.

If everybody were careful in the handling of matches, fuel, fires and greasy stuffs, if all were particular about cleaning up dirt and safeguarding against the misuse of fire-making materials, the fire losses in this country would fall to a very small figure. The hundreds of millions of dollars that are annually wasted in property destroyed by fire could be saved almost entirely if all persons faithfully kept the rules of common sense and common security.

The Conference and Its Task.

Those who are impatiently demanding that the industrial conference "get a move on" should remember three things:

(1) There is a great deal out of plumb in this country. Indeed, nearly everything is. Before we entered the war many dislocations had occurred, and after we became a belligerent they multiplied considerably. The sum total today, therefore, is formidable. Everybody, in one way or another, to some extent, is feeling the effects of abnormal conditions. Rich man, poor man and beggarman, and even the man who gets his lawfully, are complaining. All want the situation clarified and stabilized. Until that is done unrest will continue; and unrest which shows in all quarters and classes is dangerous.

(2) The abnormal conditions have produced much speculation about the responsibility, and the efforts to fix that have in turn produced some highly colored language and many extravagances of statement. In some cases capital has accused labor, and in others labor has accused capital. In still other cases the general public has accused both capital and labor. There has been no end of passing the buck, as the phrase is on the curbstone. The buck has a name, but no settled habitation. It is kept always on the go.

(3) Time is absolutely necessary for the conference to find itself and get into its stride. It may be said—as has been said twenty million times before about twenty million different things—that Rome was not built in a day. In laying foundations and rearing superstructures calculations must be made. Plans must be thought out. Here, then, is this conference, summoned to deal with difficulties that have been accumulating for five years; to clear away all sorts of misconceptions and misrepresentations; to dispel, or tone down, all sorts of extreme, and some very absurd, charges; to point the way, if possible, to the establishment of the proper order of things on new and enduring bases.

The task is huge, and should be executed with a full sense of its proportions and importance. Europe as well as America is at attention. It is known abroad that the conference is in session; that it is composed of representative men selected with care; that all American life, political, industrial and social, is greatly disturbed, and that the demand for relief is general and pressing. So that, in the light of all the facts, there seems warrant for the belief that the conference will justify its existence and make a report which will be of interest and value everywhere.

Even if Hiram Johnson were an aspirant to a presidential nomination he would be too competent a politician to make it a matter of conspicuous concern at this particular time.

Japan is not so hasty in giving Shantung to China as to suggest possible lack of courtesy in seeming too willing to avoid relations with the good people of the peninsula.

Having disposed of its labor problem, Great Britain may prepare to meet the American campaigners for prohibition and settle another momentous question.

The World Series.

This present series of ball games between Cincinnati and Chicago illustrates as seldom before the remarkable uncertainties of that sport. At the outset of the series for the world's championship Chicago was a prime favorite. Sentiment dictated some public support of the Red Stockings, but general judgment of those familiar with base ball indicated Chicago as a probable winner. Then Cincinnati proceeded to "upset the dope." Chicago's best pitcher was knocked out of the box and another good pitcher, reckoned a sure winner, was beaten. The series went on until Cincinnati had won four games to one, with only one more necessary to win the championship. Then Chicago began to "come back." One of Cincinnati's hero pitchers was knocked out of the box. Yesterday another of them suffered the same fate, and the Chicago pitcher who had lost igno-

miniously on the first day and distinctly, though not so shamefully, on his second essay took the Reds into camp easily. The Chicago sluggers showed signs of their famous prowess at the bat. Now the series stands four to three. Cincinnati has still but one game to win and Chicago has two, but that peculiar element known as base ball psychology is working to make Chicago again the decided favorite. Whatever the final result, this will be known as one of the most remarkably interesting series in the history of the sport.

No doubt some of the donors would have been more liberal than the inventories made by Secretary Tumulty would indicate, had they not feared precisely such inquiries as members of Congress have brought forward.

Lord Northcliffe's declaration that the English railway strike was settled by the use of motors will cause representatives of labor to look with special interest on the gasoline magazine, John D. Jr.

Many New Yorkers are wondering whether grand opera can be worth \$7 a seat, when jazz is so inexpensive, with the dancing privilege thrown in without extra charge.

Some of the mischievous publications now circulated evidently do not care whom they offend or misrepresent so long as they stand a chance of making trouble.

It will be a lively conference if some of the delegates decide to lock the doors and give unrestrained expression to personal opinions of one another's careers.

Russia has been peculiarly successful in getting people in other parts of the world to take up experiments after she found it impossible to make them work.

Judge Gary and Sam Gompers spoke ably enough, but neither was inclined to loiter and bring up the question of whether there was anything to arbitrate.

It might be interesting to hold an investigation to ascertain how much of the so-called race rioting is due to sheer mischiefmaking.

Reports that Lenin is in prison indicate a tendency to a more moderate fancy. Heretofore Lenin has insisted on a picturesque assassination.

Henry Ford's interests in Ireland may cause the low-back car to be replaced by the diver, with other practical improvements to follow.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

An Obsolete Demonstration.
"I used to get out on the farm and work to show my constituent, I was a horny-handed son of toil," remarked Senator Sorghum.

"Recently?"
"No. The last time I tried it a delegation of my best voters came around and wanted to know what I meant by putting in all those hours a day and trying to avoid paying wages."

Refined Robbery.

"I don't understand all these daylight robberies," said the police officer.

"The explanation is easy," replied the criminologist. "Robbers now have their own motor cars. Wealth brings refinement and they do not care to come into contact with the rough element one is likely to meet on the streets at night."

Difficult to Reach.

We have evolved full many a plan To bring the high cost down to stay.

Perhaps some time they'll reach the man Who writes the price tags, day by day.

Unrest.

"Now," inquired the man of ponderous manner, "what is the cause of all this unrest?"
"Well," replied the man who always tries to give some kind of an answer; "I can't undertake to speak for anybody except myself. Most of mine is caused by a family of jazzmanies in the adjacent flat."

Stunned Into Silence.

"Would you say, 'Thank you,' to a man who gave you a seat in a street car?"

"I don't know," answered Miss Cayenne. "Maybe I'd be too surprised to speak."

The Public.

Says Capital to Labor,
"We will talk it over, neighbor, And the public shall admire the wisdom deep."

Says Labor, "I am willing, For my mind I have been filling With some information far too good to keep."

They argued and expounded, And each topic they surrounded With a vast and indefatigable din. Here and there they grabbed a mis-

tile Silencing the factory whistle. And the Public murmured, "Where do I come in?"

Then the discord rising thickly Turned to harmony right quickly As the two exclaimed in a convincing way,

"Don't feel nervous or dejected. You shall never be neglected— You shall be the audience who has to pay."

28 Bargains for Friday

that constitute 28 good reasons for a special trip down town tomorrow

The Hecht Co.

Mr.—

Men's Shirts. Especially 95¢ good ones, Friday at

We luckily have a limited quantity to offer you at this very low price. Every shirt is perfect, full cut and fast colors.

—Main Floor.

A Sale of Men's Caps \$1.35 Very Special now at

Several broken lots combined—a number of new patterns in fancy mixtures and box checks. All sizes in the lot. For quick clearance at this low price.

—Main Floor.

Last Day of the Sale of Women's Silk Hose

Full-fashioned and super-fashioned black, brown and gray Hose. Some are embroidered, others are of the newest lace effects. Slight imperfections.

—Main Floor—South Annex.

Infants' Flannelette Gowns & Kimonos at 49¢

Made of good quality white flannelette finished down front and at neck in pink or blue stitching.

—Third Floor.

Girls' White Jean Middie Blouses 89¢

Copen blue or rose collars, sizes 6 to 12, at a very special price.

—Third Floor.

Nottingham Lace Curtains, Special, pair 85¢

Just 482 pairs of Nottingham Lace Curtains including all grades. Two to four pairs of a kind, both white and ecru, also a few panels at this very low price. Slight mill imperfections.

Couch Covers, at \$1.29

Good Roman striped couch covers fringed all around. Full sized.

Curtain Stretchers, each, 95¢

Full sized non-rusting pins; with all attachments.

Hemstitched Scrim Curtains, Special, pair 95¢

White and ecru colored scrim curtains, two-inch hems, all made ready to hang. All perfect, only 4 pairs to one person.

—Third Floor, South Annex.

Axminster Rugs Size 8.3 x 10.6. Special \$33.75

Very good grade Axminster Rugs, all new fall patterns. Oriental, Chinese and the small all-over designs. Size 8.3 by 10.6.

Carpet Sweepers at \$1.69

A good quality Carpet Sweeper, made with steel body and good quality brush.

Axminster Rugs at \$3.29

Small Axminster Rugs, 27 by 50 inches. Only two inches short of the regulation size.

Real Burlap Linoleums Special, a square yard 65¢

One thousand yards of short-length Printed Linoleums. All perfect; tile and wood patterns.

—Fourth Floor.

Boys' Norfolk Suits Corduroy & Juvenile Suits or Juvenile Overcoats

A Friday Special Reduced to \$4.95

About 200 garments in this lot taken from regular stock. Reduced for Friday only—Boys' Norfolk Suits, in medium, light and dark fancy mixtures; Corduroy Juvenile Suits, in gray, brown, tan and seal brown. Juvenile Overcoats, in heavy, fancy chevrons, mostly broken sizes; Norfolk Suits, sizes 16 to 18; Corduroy Suits, sizes 3 to 8; Juvenile Overcoats, sizes 3 to 10.

—Third Floor.

Boys' Bell Brand Blouses at 89¢

—Third Floor.

Boys' Corduroy Knickers Very Specially priced at

A mouse or gray wide rib, full cut with reinforced seams. Sizes 7 to 17 years. \$1.95

—Third Floor.

Boys' Fall Caps for Friday at 89¢

—Third Floor.

Think of It!

Splendid Wash Satin \$3.95 Blouses, at

Splendid Quality Wash Satin Sport Blouses at this special price; also others of Georgette, Crepe de Chine and Jap Silks. Selections from various incomplete assortments. Sizes 36 to 46.

—Second Floor.

Friday Only Women's Capes and Coats, Special

\$18.75

Fine Serge, Velour, Moire and Taffeta Silk and Novelty Weaves. Just what you need for the cool fall evenings and mornings. Some half lined, others entirely unlined. Plain and fancy collar and cuffs; braided and button trimmed; lots of navies. Some have Vests, Belts and Pockets.

—Second Floor.

A Remarkable Friday Bargain

Dainty Brassieres, very special, \$1.59

Flesh color satin combined with heavy lace, Good fitting and good looking. This is a wonderful offer at such a very low price.

—Second Floor, North Annex.

200 Classical and Popular

Player Rolls 9¢ each

Slightly used Music Rolls, all in good condition. None demonstrated at this low price.

—Music Dept., Fourth Floor.

Envelope Chemise 95¢ Special for Friday

There are five styles as follows:

- 1—Hamburg top and straps.
- 2—Shadow lace top and straps.
- 3—Shirred top with tailored straps.
- 4—Handkerchief lace and baby tucks, shoulder style.
- 5—Dainty lace and embroidery medallions, shoulder style.

—Second Floor, North Annex.

Here's a Player-Piano for \$355



And Remarkably Easy Terms

This is a slightly used full 88-note Player-Piano; good condition; has all the latest improved devices. With this instrument we give you free 10 hand-played word rolls, bench and delivery—so it's quite complete.

Standard Make Upright Piano Only \$36.00

—Music Dept., Fourth Floor.

The Hecht Co.

Seventh Street